

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ASUNCI 00434 011050Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 TRSE-00 PC-05 AID-05 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SCS-06 CA-01  
/094 W

-----113687 012209Z /64

R 312002Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2169

UNCLAS ASUNCION 0434

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SHUM, PA  
SUBJ: FILARTIGA CASE:MR. AND MRS. WALTER GAFFNEY

1. MR. AND MRS. WALTER GAFFNEY, WHO HAD BEEN WORKING WITH DR. JOEL FILARTIGA AT HIS CLINIC IN YBICUI UNDER PRIVATE AUSPICES, LEFT ASUNCION TO RETURN TO THE U.S. ON JANUARY 26. THE GAFFNEYS TOLD AN EMBOFF PRIOR TO DEPARTING THAT THEY WERE RETURNING TO NEW HAVEN BECAUSE OF: (A) AN INCIDENT JANUARY 14 IN YBICUI IN WHICH THEY WERE QUESTIONED BY THE AUTHORITIES ACCOMPANIED BY MILITARY POLICE AND THEIR PASSPORTS TAKEN AWAY FROM THEM; (B) THE GENERALLY TENSE ATMOSPHERE SURROUNDING THE FILARTIGA HOUSEHOLD; AND (C) THE FACT THAT THEY FEEL THERE IS NOT A GREAT DEAL THEY CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THE OPERATION OF THE CLINIC.

2. THE POLICE INVESTIGATION AND LIFTING OF THE GAFFNEYS' PASSPORTS JANUARY 14 WAS PROBABLY CAUSED BY A NATION-WIDE POLICE ALERT TO INVESTIGATE ALL "SUSPICIOUS" FOREIGNERS, APPARENTLY IN CONNECTION WITH THE JANUARY 12 "PRIMERO DE MARZO" INCIDENT. THE EMBASSY WAS ABLE TO RETRIEVE THE PASSPORTS, WITH AN APOLOGY, WITHIN HOURS.  
WHITE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978ASUNCIO0434  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780048-0989  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 3768910  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FILARTIGA CASE:MR. AND MRS. WALTER GAFFNEY  
**TAGS:** SHUM, CASC, PA, (GAFFNEY, WALTER)  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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